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Governor Martin O'Malley Swears in Maryland's First-Ever "Governor for a Day"

July 2nd, 2013

Governor swears in eight-year old Genea Harrison for a full day of gubernatorial activities

Contest promotes the important contributions of women in Maryland; encourages young women to pursue careers in public service

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today officially swore in eight-year-old Genea Harrison as [Maryland's first-ever "Governor for a Day."](#) Genea, a student heading into the fourth grade at Rosa L. Parks Elementary School, became "Governor for a Day" after her essay was selected from among more than 200 essay submissions from young women under 13 explaining why they want to be governor of Maryland and what they would do if they were "Governor for a Day. The Governor initiated this contest to encourage young women to pursue careers in public service.

"In Maryland, our diversity is our greatest strength and the accomplishments of women are an integral part of our progress as a people," **said Governor O'Malley.** "We launched the 'Governor for a Day' contest to nurture the dreams, skills and confidence of young women so they can become the leaders of tomorrow. Genea's key priorities are all things that will move our State forward – education, public safety, job creation and the environment. She reminds us that every choice we make counts toward a better future for our children."

After her official swearing-in, Governor Harrison engaged in a full schedule of events, including a meeting with Taiwan Ambassador Pu-Tsung King, a women's caucus meeting with legislators and senior administration officials, and a meeting with Lt. Governor Brown. Governor Harrison also addressed a "Congress of Educators" on the importance of environmental literacy, stream restoration and protecting the Chesapeake Bay. As part of her official duties as governor, she also helped to swear-in Jim Smith as Maryland's Transportation Secretary and Abigail Hopper as the Director of the Maryland Energy Administration. During her afternoon staff meeting, Governor Harrison also received a call today from Julia Pierson, the first woman to be named director of the U.S. Secret Service.

"I think it is wonderful that at such a young age, Genea (Miss Harrison) is showing an interest in public service. As a woman who has spent her career in law enforcement and public service, it is encouraging to see a new generation of young women getting involved and working to make the world a better and safer place," **said Director Pierson.**

"I am proud that Governor O'Malley picked me as Maryland's first-ever 'Governor for a Day' because I believe girls can take charge too and because I was governor today, it means that other girls like me can become whatever they want," **Governor Genea Harrison said.** "Everyone can make a difference and we can all help people and make Maryland a better place to live."

"I am so impressed by Genea and her passion for making Maryland a better place," **Senator**

Barbara A. Mikulski said. "I work every day in the Senate to ensure that women are at the table and on the agenda, and that we empower women and inspire the next generation of young girls. Genea exemplifies that."

"Congratulations to Genea Harrison for being selected from over 200 essays to serve as Maryland's Governor for a day," **said Rep. Donna F. Edwards (MD-4)**. "I support Genea's vision as governor to improve education, invest in our first responders, protect the environment, and ensure the health of the Chesapeake Bay. It is important that we continue to encourage our young women to pursue their passions and expand their ambitions, be it in business, the STEM fields, or public service. I thank Gov. O'Malley's administration for organizing the 'Governor for a Day' contest and I know Genea will make her family, Prince George's County, and the state of Maryland proud."

"On behalf of the residents of Prince George's County, I want to congratulate 'Governor for a Day' and Prince Georgian Genea Harrison for this incredible accomplishment," **said Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III**. "I encourage all Prince Georgians and Marylanders to read her inspiring essay and her laudable goals that together as Marylanders we should all be working to accomplish. Prince George's County is very proud of 'Governor' Harrison and we hope that she will be a role model for all children in our County and across the State to become more involved in their communities."

The O'Malley-Brown Administration recognizes the achievements of women as part of the state's continued progress. One-third of all businesses in Maryland are owned by women, the country's highest percentage, according to the National Women's Business Council. Maryland has the second lowest wage gap between working men and women. In FY2012, Minority Business Enterprise participation reached 25.2 percent, marking the first time the State achieved its goal of 25 percent program participation. Over the past five years, awards to women-owned firms increased 59 percent, from \$322.9 million in FY2007 to \$550.8 million in FY2012. Forty-four percent of the Administration's judicial appointments have been women.

To engage in the ongoing conversation about "Governor for a Day" on Twitter, use hashtag #MDgov4Day.

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Governor Martin O'Malley Makes Historic Appointments to the Maryland Court of Appeals

July 3rd, 2013

Highly qualified, diverse candidates also selected to serve the State on trial courts

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today announced two historic judicial appointments to the Maryland Court of Appeals, Maryland's highest court. The Governor named The Honorable Mary Ellen Barbera as Maryland's first woman Chief Judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals and The Honorable Shirley M. Watts to fill the vacancy in the Sixth Appellate Judicial Circuit on the Court of Appeals, which represents Baltimore City. Together, these decisions give the Maryland Court of Appeals its first ever female majority, first female Chief Judge, and first African American female judge. In another historic moment, Maryland's first-ever "Governor for a Day" Genea Harrison joined Governor O'Malley in notifying the appointees and offered her congratulations.

Judge Barbera has served on the Court since 2008, representing the Seventh Appellate Judicial Circuit in Montgomery County. She will succeed the Honorable Robert M. Bell as Chief Judge. Chief Judge Bell retires on July 6, 2013. Judge Shirley M. Watts has served on the Court of Special Appeals since 2011 and on the Circuit Court for Baltimore City from 2002 to 2011.

"I am pleased to appoint Judge Barbera to the Maryland Court of Appeals and Judge Watts to the Sixth Appellate Judicial Circuit on the Court of Appeals," said Governor O'Malley. "Judge Barbera and Judge Watts represent the best of the Maryland bar and will do an outstanding job serving on the highest court in Maryland. Throughout their judicial careers, they have exhibited integrity, intelligence, and compassion. I am honored that we are not only making history today with these appointments, but that the hard work, talents and skills of these women will help us build on the progress we're making together for the people of Maryland."

Governor O'Malley added, "I also want to thank Chief Judge Robert M. Bell for his unmatched record of service to the Maryland judiciary. Chief Judge Bell has served for almost four decades in every level of our judicial system, and we are grateful for his passion for fairness and commitment to justice."

Governor O'Malley also announced several appointments to the trial courts. Governor O'Malley appointed Joan Elizabeth Ryon to the Circuit Court for Montgomery County; Stacy Adele Mayer to the District Court for Baltimore County; and Lisa Angela Hall Johnson and Gregory Cronin Powell to the District Court for Prince George's County. These appointees bring a diverse array of legal experiences to their new jobs. They also represent the ethnic and gender diversity of our great state.

All of the judges selected to serve in Maryland's judiciary were recommended to Governor O'Malley by the appellate courts nominating commission and the trial court judicial nominating commissions.

In Maryland, our diversity is our greatest strength and the accomplishments of women are an integral part of our progress as a people. Since taking office, Governor O'Malley has made 118 judicial appointments including 52 women – 44% of the total judicial appointments.

###

Biographical Information

Judge Barbera has been a public servant and a leader throughout her career. In the early 1980s, she taught elementary school for the Baltimore City Public School System while attending the University of Maryland School of Law at night. From 1985 to 1989, she worked for the Criminal Appeals Division of the Office of the Attorney General, where she represented the State of Maryland in at least 250 criminal appeals. From 1988 to 2002, she served as legal counsel to Governor Parris N. Glendening.

During Judge Barbera's tenure at the Court of Appeals, and earlier during her service on the Court of Special Appeals from 2002 to 2008, she authored dozens of published opinions that reflect impeccable judgment and a first-rate legal mind. In addition to her judicial responsibilities, Judge Barbera has served on the Judicial Ethics Committee and as Chair of the Criminal Law and Procedure Committee of the Maryland Judicial Conference. Judge Barbera also has served on numerous committees of the Maryland State Bar Association, including the special committee on anti-discrimination matters and the standing committee to draft pattern jury instructions in criminal cases. She currently serves as Chair of the Judicial Institute of Maryland's Board of Directors, a member of the Maryland Access to Justice Commission, and on the Advisory Board of the Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office.

In addition to her work on the bench, Judge Barbera has taught courses at the American University Washington College of Law and the University of Baltimore School of Law. In 1998, the University of Baltimore School of Law gave her an award for Outstanding Teaching by an Adjunct Faculty Member.

Judge Barbera has been recognized for her consistent leadership and public service. The Daily Record gave her the Maryland Leadership in Law Award in 2007, and recognized her as one of Maryland's Top 100 Women in 2008. In 1998, she received the Distinguished Service Award from the Maryland State's Attorneys' Association.

Judge Barbera received a Juris Doctor from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1984. She received a Bachelor of Arts in early childhood education from Towson University in 1975.

Judge Watts will be the first African-American woman to serve on the Court of Appeals. Judge Watts has served on the Court of Special Appeals since January 2011. She began her legal career practicing criminal law and spent four years as an Assistant State's Attorney for Baltimore City. She then served nine years in the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the District of Maryland, where she represented indigent criminal defendants and served as Supervisory Assistant Public Defender for her final four years.

In 1997, Judge Watts accepted an appointment as a federal Administrative Law Judge. She served as Chief Administrative Law Judge for the Office of Hearings and Appeals in Maryland from 1999-2002 until she was appointed to the Circuit Court for Baltimore City in 2002. Judge Watts served as an Associate Judge on that court from 2002 until her appointment to the Court of Special Appeals in 2011.

Judge Watts received a Juris Doctor from Rutgers University School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts from Howard University. For several years, she was an adjunct professor at the Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, where she taught trial practice. Judge Watts was awarded The Daily Record's Leadership in Law award in 2011 and has been active for many years with Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

Joan Elizabeth Ryon is a Family Division Master in the Montgomery County Circuit Court, a position she has held since 2000. She began her career in private practice before being named an Assistant State's Attorney for Montgomery County in the Family Services Division in 1986. In 1990, she was named Special Counsel to the Child Services Enforcement Administration, and in 1994 she was appointed as a Special Master for the Montgomery County Circuit Court. Master Ryon received a Juris Doctor from the College of William and Mary's Marshall-Wythe School of Law and a Bachelor of Science from Frostburg State College.

Stacy Adele Mayer has spent her entire legal career in public service as a prosecutor and legislative aide advocating for Maryland families. She began her career in the State's Attorney Office for Baltimore County working in the Juvenile Division and District Court. In 1999, she was named an Assistant State's Attorney for Howard County, where she prosecuted cases at both the Circuit and District Court levels.

In 2008, Governor O'Malley appointed her to be his Deputy Legislative Officer, and in 2012 she was promoted to Chief Legislative Officer. Ms. Mayer was instrumental in advocating for public safety legislation to protect Marylanders from gun violence, child abuse, and domestic violence. She received a Juris Doctor from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Richmond.

Lisa Angela Hall Johnson is currently the Director of Litigation at Washington Gas Light Company. Previously she worked as an Assistant State's Attorney for Prince George's County and at the law firms of Dickstein Shapiro LLP and McDermott Will & Emery. Ms. Hall Johnson received the Equal Justice Associates Leadership Award from the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau in 2011, and she is an active member of the state and local bar associations. Ms. Hall Johnson received a Juris Doctor from Duke University and a Bachelor of Science from the University of Virginia.

Gregory Cronin Powell spent the last nine years as a solo practitioner focusing on criminal, bankruptcy, domestic and personal injury cases. Prior to 2004, he spent 21 years as a partner at the Prince George's County law firm of Ross and Powell. Mr. Powell is the Chairperson of the Juvenile Law Committee of the Prince George's County Bar Association. He received a Juris Doctor from Catholic University and a Bachelor of Arts from the State University of New York at Fredonia.

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Governor O'Malley Announces Nearly \$650 Million to Improve Transportation in Prince George's County

July 8th, 2013

Transportation investments for County will create 4,000 jobs, reduce traffic congestion, and improve pedestrian safety

SUITLAND, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today announced nearly \$650 million in transportation investments for Prince George's County that will create jobs, reduce traffic congestion and improve pedestrian safety. The Governor was joined by key federal, state and county officials, including Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.; Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III; Charles County Commissioner President Candice Quinn Kelly; Delegate Sally Jameson; Delegate Melony Griffith; Delegate Kriselda Valderrama; and Senator Ulysses Currie.

"This past legislative session, we made the better choices to invest in the future of Maryland's transportation network, allowing us to create more than 57,200 jobs for our hardworking families and rebuild our State's infrastructure," said Governor O'Malley. "Today, we are pleased to announce projects in Prince George's County that will create 4,000 jobs, reduce traffic congestion and improve pedestrian safety. Together, we can build the sustainable 21st Century transportation network that a modern economy requires."

The projects announced today were made possible with funding from the [Transportation Infrastructure Investment Act of 2013](#), which allows Maryland to activate long-term strategies to invest in Maryland's transportation systems. By putting people back to work in the transportation industry with these new investments, Maryland will create hundreds of millions of dollars in economic activity and provide Marylanders with the transportation infrastructure necessary to grow and prosper for decades to come.

Today's announcement provides nearly \$650 million in key projects for Prince George's County, including:

- \$100 million to construct an interchange on MD 210 (Indian Head Highway) at Kerby Hill-Livingston Road;
- \$50 million to improve access to the Branch Avenue Metro Station by constructing a new pedestrian bridge over MD 5 and a new metro access road (Woods Way) with sidewalks from MD 5 to the Branch Avenue Metro Station and by upgrading existing roadways to include additional turn lanes and sidewalks;
- \$7 million to design a full interchange, to upgrade the existing partial interchange, on I-95/I-495 at the Greenbelt Metro Station;
- \$150 million to construct a new interchange on MD 4 at Suitland Parkway;
- \$20 million to purchase right-of-way for a bicycle, pedestrian and safety improvements along US 1 from College Avenue to MD 193 in College Park;
- \$280 million to complete right-of-way acquisition and final design for the Maryland

National Capital Purple Line; and

- \$26 million to construct pedestrian/bicycle safety improvements and enhance community revitalization efforts along State roadways in Prince George's County, including:

—\$9 million to construct improvements along MD 5 (Branch Avenue) and MD 637 (Naylor Road) near the Naylor Road Metro Station (sidewalks, medians, resurfacing, pedestrian lighting and signal upgrades)

—\$6 million to construct improvements along MD 201 (Kenilworth) from Kenilworth Tower to MD 410 (sidewalks, bicycle lane, pedestrian improvements); and

—\$11 million to construct improvements along MD 500 (Queens Chapel Road) from MD 208 to MD 410 (sidewalks, crosswalks and traffic “calming” upgrades to slow down traffic).

“Prince George's County has long needed major infrastructure investments and these projects will finally give us the opportunity to make the most out of the economic development and other opportunities in our County,” said **Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.** “I look forward to seeing the long-term benefits of these projects for Prince George's County and our entire state.”

“Our investment in Maryland's transportation network is an investment in building the State's economy,” said **Speaker Michael E. Busch**. “Not only will these investments make our transportation system stronger and more reliable in the short-term, but also make our economy and business community more competitive in the long-term.”

“On behalf of the residents and stakeholders of Prince George's County, I thank Governor O'Malley for, once again, investing in the future and potential of our County,” said **Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III**. “This generous infusion of funding for our transportation priorities will provide an excellent stimulus towards Prince George's County becoming the economic engine of the Washington region and the State of Maryland. These infrastructure projects will be the game changers that will create jobs, lead to better transit oriented development, alleviate traffic congestion and improve public safety.”

“Prince George's County neighborhoods will be safer and local businesses will be more convenient, with improved and more efficient infrastructure,” said **U.S. Senator Ben Cardin**, a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Transportation Infrastructure Subcommittee. “These types of investments continue to pay positive dividends for Maryland communities, helping our economy grow stronger.”

“These public investments create private sector jobs in construction today and prepare Maryland's infrastructure for the jobs of tomorrow,” said **U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski**.

“These projects are among the most pressing in the region. Maryland can count on me to keep fighting for our state's fair share of federal formula funding to help pay for improvements to our highways, byways and transit systems.”

“Today, Governor O'Malley announced nearly \$650 million in infrastructure projects for Prince George's County that will create approximately 4,000 jobs and make a significant difference for residents, businesses, and commuters in the Fifth District and the surrounding region,” stated **U.S. Congressman Steny Hoyer**. “By improving our roads, working to expand Metro through the Purple Line, and increasing pedestrian access and safety, we can boost our economic competitiveness and long-term growth in Prince George's County. I applaud the Governor for moving forward with these crucial projects.”

In addition to announcing these top transportation priorities, the O'Malley-Brown Administration also delivered Charles County's top priority by providing a \$5 million Southern Maryland Transit Study to connect Waldorf to the Branch Avenue Metro Station. This study will look to provide more transportation options to residents commuting to Washington, D.C.

Over the summer months, the State will continue to review project needs and make investment

decisions. The Maryland Department of Transportation's draft six-year transportation budget will be published on September 3rd. This budget, known as the Consolidated Transportation Program, will provide a full list of the new projects funded by the Transportation Act. This budget will be posted on MDOT's website at www.mdot.maryland.gov.

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Governor O'Malley and Mayor Rawlings-Blake Announce \$2.8 Million in Joint Investments to Support Summer Jobs for Youth in Baltimore

July 10th, 2013

Investments support wages for nearly 2,300 YouthWorks summer jobs

BALTIMORE, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today, joined by Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, visited the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) to announce a combined \$2.8 million in investments to create over 2,300 summer jobs for local youth through Baltimore City's [YouthWorks](#) program while visiting with 20 YouthWorks participants currently employed by MICA this summer.

"There is no progress without jobs. By making better choices to support initiatives like YouthWorks, our State continues to expand opportunity and give teens a work experience that will serve them not just this summer, but on the way to the next step of their careers," said Governor O'Malley. "Together with our local partners, we continue to provide our youth with job opportunities that will strengthen their skills and prepare our workforce for the 21st century economy."

"Baltimore is grateful for the strong investment by Governor O'Malley, and the State of Maryland, to help fund our 2013 summer jobs program," said Mayor Rawlings-Blake. "Through our [Hire One Youth](#) initiative, YouthWorks is a worthy example of a public-private partnership that results in positive work experiences that benefit our young people, businesses, and our communities."

YouthWorks, operated by the Baltimore City [Mayor's Office of Employment Development](#), places young people between the ages of 14 and 21 in six-week summer jobs with private sector, nonprofit, and city and state government employers throughout the city, where they develop familiarity with the workplace, become better prepared to meet employers' expectations, and gain exposure to career opportunities in the Baltimore metropolitan area's high growth industries.

Governor O'Malley's FY2014 budget invests \$1.38 million in Baltimore's YouthWorks program creating over 1,100 summer jobs. Mayor Rawlings-Blake and the Baltimore City Council are investing \$1.48 million in the program creating 1,200 summer jobs. Combined, the City and the State are investing \$2.86 million to create 2,300 summer jobs for Baltimore City teens. In addition, the Maryland State Department of Human Resources and the Baltimore City Department of Social Services provide an annual \$1 million grant to YouthWorks to create over 900 jobs for teens receiving Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA), living in homes receiving TCA and/or living in foster care.

Baltimore City's dedicated private sector contributes significantly to the YouthWorks program. Contributions from private foundations, businesses, and individuals pay the wages for close to

2,000 young people. Together, state, city and private sector investments in YouthWorks will create over 5,000 jobs for Baltimore City youth this summer at more than 545 worksites throughout the city.

In its first year participating as a YouthWorks host site, [MICA](#) serves as a model of an engaged YouthWorks partner. The school directly hired 10 students through Hire One Youth, and is serving as a YouthWorks worksite for an additional 10.

"MICA's new partnership with YouthWorks is another example of our longstanding commitment to integrating community engagement into everything we do," said **Fred Lazarus IV, president of MICA**. "Like our academic programs, our work with these fantastic young people emphasizes our belief in the power of their potential. We are committed to not only helping them understand the empowering nature of employment, but also to exposing them to role models and professional development programming that can help them chart a path to fulfilling careers and productive citizenship."

YouthWorks began on June 24, 2013, and will conclude August 2, 2013. For more information, please visit www.oedworks.com.

###

About MICA

Founded in 1826, Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) is the oldest continuously degree-granting college of art and design in the nation. The College enrolls nearly 3,500 undergraduate, graduate and continuing studies students from all 50 states and 57 countries in fine arts, design, electronic media, art education, liberal arts, and professional studies degree and non-credit programs. Redefining art and design education, MICA is pioneering interdisciplinary approaches to innovation, research, and community and social engagement. Alumni and programming reach around the globe, even as MICA remains a cultural cornerstone in the Baltimore/Washington region, hosting hundreds of exhibitions and events annually by students, faculty and other established artists.

About Hire One Youth

Hire One Youth is an initiative launched by Mayor Rawlings-Blake in 2012 to challenge Baltimore employers to join the City in creating valuable private sector summer employment opportunities for Baltimore's older YouthWorks participants. The Mayor reintroduced the campaign this year with the support of a Hire One Youth Leadership Team comprised of local business leaders and chaired by Donald C. Fry, president and CEO of the Greater Baltimore Committee. To date, 300 young people have been hired by 120 employers through the 2013 YouthWorks' [Hire One Youth](#) component.

Hire One Youth employers are able to interview multiple qualified, pre-screened applicants; offer six to eight weeks of employment; and pay participants more than minimum wage if the position warrants it.

Employers who wish to join the Hire One Youth campaign and commit to hiring at least one youth this summer can complete the online form at www.baltimorecity.gov/HireOneYouth or contact YouthWorks, operated by the Mayor's Office of Employment Development, at 410-396-JOBS (5627) or hireoneyouth@oedworks.com.

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Governor O'Malley Announces Construction Investments for New Roundabout for University of Maryland Eastern Shore in Somerset County

July 11th, 2013

Transportation Act advances start of project which will support nearly 50 jobs

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today announced \$3.7 million in transportation investments following the passage of the Transportation Infrastructure Investment Act to start construction of a new roundabout at MD 822 (University of Maryland Eastern Shore Boulevard) and MD 675 (Somerset Avenue) in Princess Anne, Somerset County. This project will support nearly 50 jobs and construct a long-awaited safety improvement project for the Eastern Shore.

"Thanks to the better choices we've made to pass the Transportation Act, we can continue to create jobs for our families and advance crucial safety projects like this roundabout across the State," **said Governor O'Malley**.

Construction of the roundabout is scheduled to begin in late fall 2013. In order to enhance pedestrian safety, this project also will provide new sidewalks along MD 675 from the roundabout to MD 362 (Mt. Vernon Road). Additionally, the project includes drainage improvements and modernizing stormwater treatment facilities.

"The UMES-Somerset Avenue Roundabout Project demonstrates how our citizens, towns, counties and the state government achieve success by working together," **said Senator Jim Mathias**. "In this project, years of pedestrian safety concerns, as well as traffic issues affecting the residents of Princess Anne and students of UMES, and serious storm water management issues that have been problematic to the region for many years have been remedied. I'm very pleased of our accomplishments and grateful the funds have been made available for this project to become a reality."

When complete in fall 2014, the new roundabout will enhance the safety of pedestrian and motorists traveling to the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), which has approximately 4,500 students. Motorists will continue to have access along UMES Boulevard while the roundabout and related utility work is underway.

"These long-awaited and critical safety improvements are celebrated by all of us who call Princess Anne our home," **said Delegate Charles Otto**. "For more than 20 years, this has been a priority, and I applaud everyone who worked to get the funding to move this project forward."

The roundabout project will require moving several water and sewer lines. The Town of Princess Anne has applied for a \$250,000 Community Development Block Grant from the state to cover the cost of moving the local utility lines to enable the project to move forward. The total cost of the roundabout and sidewalk improvements, including right-of-way, design and

construction, is \$4.1 million.

"Princess Anne is a growing community and infrastructure sits at the top of our list of things to get done," **said Garland Hayward, President of the Princess Anne County Commissioners**. "On behalf of all of Princess Anne and UMES, I can't express how grateful we are to the State for making these much needed safety improvements possible."

"Improved access to our campus and the safety of our students, who must walk along roads with no sidewalks, have been long-standing concerns of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore," **said UMES President Juliette Bell**. "We are delighted that this project will be underway soon and extremely grateful to Governor O'Malley and the State for making this funding possible."

Together with the members of the General Assembly, Maryland passed the historic Transportation Infrastructure Investment Act of 2013 during the recent legislative session, which support more than 57,200 jobs and invest an average of \$800 million a year at full implementation for transportation projects, and a total of \$4.4 billion over the next six years (FY 2014 – FY 2019), to enable Maryland to build a sustainable, 21st century transportation system. These better choices already have yielded better results for Marylanders. Recently, Governor O'Malley announced more than \$1.5 billion in new funds to advance highway and transit projects throughout the State, including construction of major highway and bridge projects that will improve safety and support economic development.

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on Maryland's Triple A Bond Rating

July 12th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today released the following statement on all three bond rating agencies affirming Maryland's Triple A bond rating:

"In Maryland, we've made the better choices to maintain fiscal responsibility. With a balanced approach of record budget cuts and modern investments – together with leaders in the General Assembly – we've constrained budget growth, made government smaller, nearly eliminated the long-standing structural deficit, and strengthened our State's Rainy Day Fund. Because of these better choices, Maryland stands as one of only nine states with a Triple A bond rating affirmed by all three bond rating agencies.

"Together, we've now recovered over 95 percent of the jobs lost during the recession. As we continue our recovery, we must invest in the innovation sectors of our economy and protect this seal of fiscal responsibility so we can improve the conditions for Maryland businesses, fuel economic growth and create jobs for more Marylanders."

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Governor Martin O'Malley Announces Appointments to the Maryland Center for School Safety Governing Board

July 15th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD - Governor Martin O'Malley today announced the appointments of Lorig Charkoudian, Ph.D., Theresa E. Detorie, Valerie S. Carr, and Elizabeth Watson Ray to the Maryland Center for School Safety Governing Board. Additionally, the Governor appointed State Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Lillian Lowery, as chair. These appointments are effective today, July 15, 2013.

"I am pleased to announce the appointment of these highly-skilled and talented individuals to the Maryland Center for School Safety Governing Board," said Governor O'Malley. "I am confident that they each possess the experience and leadership necessary to ensure that every child in Maryland can learn in a safe environment and receive the quality public education they deserve."

The Maryland Center for School Safety was created by the General Assembly in 2013 and approved by the Governor on May 2, 2013 to work with all public school and law enforcement stakeholders to ensure a comprehensive approach to school safety, including disseminating information on best practices, providing training and technical assistance, and gathering meaningful data on school safety issues. The Governing Board will develop a plan to phase in establishment and operation of the Center; provide general oversight and direction to the Center; and approve the annual budget for the Center.

The four members of the public appointed by the Governor include a parent of a public school student, a representative of a nonpublic school, and a representative of school bus drivers. The fourth member is undesignated. The Governing Board will also include seven other members from the following Maryland agencies and organizations: the offices of the State Superintendent of Schools, the Secretary of State Police, the Attorney General, the Department of Disabilities, the Public School Superintendents' Association of Maryland and a representative of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education. The State Superintendent of Schools will appoint a school psychologist or sociologist.

Parent of a Public School Student

Lorig Charkoudian, Ph.D., is Co-Founder and Executive Director of Community Mediation Maryland. She has 20 years of experience in conflict resolution and mediation and has a direct connection to the programs currently providing conflict resolution programs in schools throughout the State. She earned a B.A. in Mathematical Economics from Pomona College in California, an M.A. in Economics and a Ph.D. in Economics from Johns Hopkins University where her dissertation was an Economic Analysis of Inter-Personal Conflict and Community Mediation. She has been published in Conflict Resolutions Quarterly and the American Bar Association Dispute Resolution Magazine and she participated in the Leadership Maryland Class of 2011. She resides in Montgomery County where her children attend a public elementary school. Dr. Charkoudian also volunteers with the PTA, the Girl Scouts and the

Takoma Park Silver Spring Food Co-operative.

Representative of a Nonpublic School

Theresa E. Detorie serves as the Director of Security at the Bryn Mawr School for Girls. In this position she has developed, supervised and implemented security plans, emergency, crisis and disaster plans and worked with neighborhood associations to address mutual issues. She also previously served as Athletic Director for Bryn Mawr. She earned a B.S. in Physical Education, Cum Laude, from Salisbury State College and an M.S. in Secondary and Physical Education from Towson State University. In addition to her teaching and coaching responsibilities, she has also done curriculum development in conjunction with The Montclair Kimberley Academy. Ms. Detorie resides in Baltimore City.

Representative of School Bus Drivers

Valerie S. Carr is a School Bus Driver with 25 years of experience with the Prince George's County Public Schools Transportation Department. She is a graduate of Atholton High School and studied business at Howard County Community College. She previously served as a bookkeeper for a local construction company. Ms. Carr is a resident of Anne Arundel County.

Undesignated public member

Elizabeth Watson Ray is a Special Education Teacher at Aberdeen Middle School. At Aberdeen Middle School, she has served on the School Improvement Team and the School Business Parent Partnership Committee and been active in a mentoring program called Sisterhood in Growth. Prior to her work as a teacher, she worked for the Carroll County Department of Social Services and for the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services as a Correctional Officer in both the Baltimore Pre-release Unit and at the Maryland State Penitentiary. She earned a B.S. in Criminal Justice/Special Education from Coppin State University and an M.A. in Special Education from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland. Ms. Ray is a resident of Harford County.

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on Immigration Reform

July 17th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today released the following statement urging the U.S. House of Representatives to pass comprehensive, common sense immigration reform:

"I join with my fellow governors across the country in urging the U.S. House of Representatives to pass the common sense immigration legislation recently approved by the Senate. This is the right thing to do for our national security, the well-being of our workforce, and also for job creation and the U.S. economy.

"If we want better results we have to make better choices.

"In Maryland, we passed the DREAM Act – and we became the first State to successfully defend it at the ballot box – because in an Innovation Economy, we create more jobs when we expand opportunity."

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Declaration Del Gobernador Martin O'Malley Sobre La Reforma Migratoria

July 17th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – El Gobernador Martin O'Malley hizo hoy la siguiente declaración sobre la reforma migratoria:

“Me uno a los Gobernadores a lo largo de la nación para urgir a la Casa de Representantes de los Estados Unidos a que pasen la ley de inmigración con sentido común recientemente aprobada por el Senado. Esto es lo mejor que podemos hacer por la seguridad nacional, el bienestar de nuestra fuerza laboral, la generación de empleo y la economía nacional.

“Si queremos mejores resultados tenemos que hacer mejores elecciones.

“En Maryland, aprobamos el DREAM ACT – y somos el primer estado que lo defendió exitosamente en la mesa de votación – porque en una economía innovadora, creamos más empleos cuando expandimos las oportunidades.”

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on Preliminary June Jobs Report

July 18th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today issued the following statement on the U.S. Department of Labor's release of preliminary employment data for the month of June:

"Last month, Maryland's businesses created 6,200 new jobs. Together, as a state, we've now recovered more than 99 percent of the jobs lost in the national economic downturn – a significant step forward in our job creation and recovery efforts.

"Thanks to the better choices we've made together, all three bond rating agencies recently affirmed Maryland's fiscally responsible approach by certifying our State as one of only nine with a Triple A bond rating. But there are still too many moms and dads out of work, and that's why the most important job we create is the next one. The O'Malley-Brown Administration is committed to investing in the skills, talents, innovation and creativity of our people so that we can continue to strengthen and grow our State's economy, and move forward by expanding opportunity for our diverse and growing middle class."

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Governor O'Malley Announces Designation, Renewal, of Six Maryland Enterprise Zones

July 24th, 2013

Zones help to revitalize communities, attract businesses and create jobs

BALTIMORE, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today announced that the State, through the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED), has approved the designation and renewal of six Enterprise Zones around Maryland, enabling the jurisdictions to provide businesses located within the zones with income tax and property tax credits to help create and retain jobs. The State approved a new Zone in Glenmont in Montgomery County, and re-designated Zones in Cecil County; City of Cambridge-Dorchester County; Long Branch/Takoma Park-Montgomery County; Town of Princess Anne-Somerset County; and Southwest-Baltimore County.

"I am pleased to designate and renew these six Enterprise Zones which will help sustain existing businesses and attract much-needed new businesses to help us achieve our most important goal of creating and retaining jobs," said Governor O'Malley. "Last year, businesses located in the State's 30 Enterprise Zones received more than \$27 million in property tax credits, which have contributed to \$2 billion in capital investment in Maryland businesses over the past 10 years."

The Cecil County Enterprise Zone was approved for re-designation, as well as expansion, and will add 55 acres for a total of 4,334 acres. The Zone includes the Upper Chesapeake Corporate Center, the Elkton Business Center, Triumph Industrial Park, Broadlands Business Park, North East Commerce Center, Peninsula Industrial Park, Principio Industrial Park and the Perryville Industrial Park. The designation will help Cecil County increase its employment base, encourage expansion of existing businesses, increase the tax base and decrease its dependence of employment base on surrounding jurisdictions.

"The Enterprise Zone designation is a vital incentive for Cecil County, said Cecil County Office of Economic Development Director Lisa L. Webb. "It has been proven effective in creating job opportunities and encouraging capital investment in our community. We are pleased to have this re-designation that positions Cecil to be more competitive, strengthening our growth corridor as Maryland's Gateway to Innovation."

The City of Cambridge-Dorchester County received approval to re-designate its existing zone which encompasses 1,661 acres including the downtown Cambridge business district, the new Dorchester Regional Technology Park, an underutilized site being considered for a major mixed-use development project, and the corridor along Route 50. Nine major employers are located within the Zone and the majority of companies reported an upswing in business last year. Between the Zone designation period of 2000 and 2007, the number of business establishments expanded by 14 percent.

"The State of Maryland's redesignation of the Cambridge-Dorchester Enterprise Zone will give our community the needed support for new business development and existing business

expansion,” said City of Cambridge Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley. “The Enterprise Zone program incentives fit perfectly with the City Council’s effort to revitalize the entire community. This redesignation along with the recent redesignation of our Arts and Entertainment district as well as Cambridge being named one of the best small towns in the U.S. should motivate companies to expand upon their investment in our community and encourage new companies to Choose Cambridge.”

“Dorchester County is excited about the potential business attraction and expansion opportunities the Enterprise Zone re-designation represents,” said Keasha Haythe, Director of the Dorchester County Economic Development. “The Dorchester Regional Technology Park area will be a catalyst for new commercial development.”

The City of Takoma Park and Montgomery County were approved to re-designate the Long Branch/Takoma Park Enterprise Zone which includes 125.35 acres located along Piney Branch Road, University Boulevard and New Hampshire Avenue. Goals for the Zone are to create jobs, preserve existing jobs, encourage new business investment, incentivize the development of vacant or underutilized land, promote public investment, and help support development for the proposed Piney Branch Neighborhood Village and the Long Branch Town Center.

Also in Montgomery County, Glenmont received approval to designate a 235.18-acre Enterprise Zone to include the Glenmont Shopping Center and the surrounding community located along Georgia Avenue and Randolph Road. The Zone will help attract private investments, stimulate sustainable economic activity, create jobs, and support the revitalization of the community through higher density and mixed-use development on several strategic properties within Glenmont.

“The Enterprise Zone designation in Glenmont and re-designation of the Long Branch/Takoma Park Enterprise Zone furthers Montgomery County’s goal of creating more transit-oriented development projects to enhance both our business and residential communities,” said Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett. “Innovative, targeted re-purposing of our older urban cores is essential to Montgomery County’s efforts to stay competitive and ensure we remain the economic engine of Maryland.”

The Town of Princess Anne and Somerset County were approved to renew the 1,154.90 acre Princess Anne/Somerset County Enterprise Zone, which includes historic downtown Princess Anne, the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Sysco Eastern Maryland, the Eastern Correctional Institute, and the Princess Anne Industrial Park.

Also approved for re-designation is the 1,304 acre Southwest-Baltimore County Enterprise Zone which includes 180 properties totaling more than 10 million square-feet of industrial, flex and office space. Several major projects in the Zone have utilized the real property tax credits to build or renovate buildings including Bakery Express, Ferguson Enterprises, and Hollins End Corporate Park. In addition, many businesses located in the Zone have taken advantage of the income tax credits for hiring new employees. Private investment in the Southwest Enterprise Zone over the last 10 years has exceeded \$200 million and more than 1,200 jobs were created.

“Enterprise Zone designation has been a catalyst for more than \$200 million in new private investment in southwest Baltimore County,” said Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz. “Vacant industrial buildings are now thriving manufacturing, logistics and supply chain hubs. The Southwest Enterprise Zone has been an important part of attracting new jobs and new investment to Baltimore County.”

DBED approves the State’s Enterprise Zones, while local governments are responsible for their administration. Businesses operating within an Enterprise Zone may be eligible for a tax credit towards their state income tax filings based upon the number of new jobs created, and a tax credit on their local real property taxes based upon their overall capital investment into a property.

ABOUT DBED

The Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development stimulates private investment and creates jobs by attracting new businesses, encouraging the expansion and retention of existing companies, and providing workforce training and financial assistance to Maryland companies. The Department promotes the State's many economic advantages and markets local products and services at home and abroad to spur economic development and international investment, trade and tourism. For more information, visit www.ChooseMaryland.org

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Governor and First Lady O'Malley Host Sixth Annual Buy Local Cookout

July 25th, 2013

Governor celebrates "Buy Local Challenge" Week July 20-28 with cookout featuring local products, local recipes, local chefs

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley and First Lady Katie O'Malley hosted the sixth annual Buy Local Cookout at Government House this evening and officially recognized Maryland's Buy Local Challenge Week, which encourages Marylanders to incorporate at least one locally grown, produced or harvested product into their meals each day. Governor O'Malley designated July 20-28 as "Buy Local Challenge Week" to raise awareness about the benefits of local farms and food so that Marylanders will become more familiar and more frequent consumers of fresh, local products.

"Buying locally is key to ensuring a smart, green and growing future for Maryland families. It preserves farmland, protects the environment, bolsters local economies, and provides wholesome, nutritious, great-tasting fresh food," said Governor O'Malley. "Katie and I challenge our fellow Marylanders to find local farmers markets and purchase locally grown products for their favorite dishes."

The Buy Local Challenge, created in 2006 by the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission, has grown into a statewide initiative that has continued to grow. In its 2010 Policy Choices Survey, the University of Baltimore Schaefer Center for Public Policy found that more than 78 percent of Marylanders said they want to buy produce grown by a Maryland farmer.

"Today, there are more than 144 farmers' markets in Maryland and more demand for local products than ever before," said Agriculture Secretary Buddy Hance. "We are working hard to connect local producers with local consumers, and we invite everyone to check our searchable database at www.marylandsbest.net to find the local products and markets near them."

In March, Governor O'Malley invited teams of chefs and at least one farmer, waterman or producer to submit recipes featuring locally grown, raised or harvested ingredients. Of the 25 recipes submitted by chef/producer teams, 14 were selected for the cookout based on their creativity, availability of ingredients, geographic representation, and maximum use of local ingredients. Government House chefs will provide two additional dishes for the cookout.

All recipe submissions have been compiled and published in the *2013 Buy Local Cookout Recipes*, which includes wine paring recommendations from the Maryland Wineries Association. The cookbook is available online at: <http://mda.maryland.gov/Documents/cookbook13.pdf>

In addition to the selected chefs and producers, several enterprises donated products for the cookout, including

Honest Tea, Roseda Farm, Firefly Farms, and Chesapeake Bay Roasting Company. Also, Maryland Wineries Association, Amber Fields Malting and Brewing, Monocacy Brewing

Company and Milkhouse Brewery at Stillpoint Farms donated or provided samples of beverages.

Five creameries on Maryland's Best Ice Cream Trail also donated ice cream, including Prigel Family Creamery (Baltimore County), Kilby Cream (Cecil County), Keyes Creamery (Harford County), South Mountain Creamery (Frederick County), and Misty Meadows Farm Creamery (Washington County).

Attendance at the cookout is by invitation only. The guest list includes agricultural leaders, producers, chefs, buyers from groceries, restaurants and institutions; and "buy local" advocates.

Recipes featured at the cookout are below. To view them by county, [click here](#).

Appetizer: English Pea Toast with Pickled Ramps

- **Chef:** Chris Becker, Bagby Restaurant Group (Baltimore)
- **Producer:** Cunningham Farms – pickled ramps, English peas, micro greens and radishes (Baltimore County)

Appetizer: Maryland Corn Fritters with Tomato Salsa

- **Chef:** Katie Moose, Conduit Press (Talbot County)
- **Producer:** Michelle Wright of Wright's Market – corn, tomatoes, peppers, cilantro, green onions, garlic (Wicomico County)

Appetizer: Rockfish Sausage with Heirloom Tomato and Roasted Corn Relish

- **Chef:** James Barrett, Azure Restaurant at the Westin Annapolis (Anne Arundel County)
- **Producer:** Arnold Farms – tomatoes, corn, pepper and onions (Queen Anne's County)
- **Producer:** Local watermen – rockfish (TBC)

Salad/Side Dish: Deviled Eggs with Smoked Bacon, Farm Fresh Yogurt and White Balsamic Glaze In Bibb Lettuce Wraps

- **Chef:** Craig Sewell, A Cook's Café (Anne Arundel County)
- **Producer:** David Smith of Springfield Farm – eggs and smoked bacon (Baltimore County)
- **Producer:** Bobby Prigel of Prigel Family Creamery – plain yogurt (Baltimore County)
- **Producer:** Baywater Greens – hydroponic bibb lettuce (Wicomico County)

Salad/Side Dish: Stuffed Zucchini

- **Chef:** Travis Szerensits, The Manor Tavern (Baltimore County)
- **Producer:** Jon Shaw, BaltimOrganic – heirloom tomatoes and radish (Baltimore County)

Salad/Side Dish: Cucumber and Watermelon Salad with Maple Thyme Vinaigrette

- **Chef:** Daniel Elard, Zeffert & Gold Catering (Baltimore)
- **Producer:** Bartenfelder Farms – cucumbers, watermelon, thyme (Baltimore County)
- **Producer:** Lindemann's Apiary – honey (Carroll County)
- **Producer:** Distillery Lane Ciderworks – apple cider vinegar (Frederick County)
- **Producer:** S & S Maple Camp – maple syrup (Allegany County)

Entrée: Bison Ravioli in Bay Blue Mornay Sauce

- **Chef:** David Hayes, Bistro St. Michaels (Talbot County)
- **Producer:** Holly Foster, Chapel's Country Creamery – milk, garlic and chive cheddar and bay blue cheese (Talbot County)
- **Producer:** Bill Edwards, SB Farms – bison roast (Dorchester County)
- **Producer:** Baywater Greens – micro greens – arugula and red russian kale (Wicomico)

County)

Entrée: Chesapeake Soft Crab with Road Stand Relish

- **Chef:** Paul Bartlett, Phillips Crab Deck (Annapolis)
- **Producer:** John Walton, Walton's Seafood – Maryland soft crabs (Charles County)
- **Producer:** Piscataway Farms – tomatoes and cucumbers (Prince George's County)

Entrée: Gunpowder Farms Bison Burger with Smoked Bacon, Goat Cheddar, Marinated Tomato, and Hot Mix

- **Chef:** Bradley Willits, B&O American Brasserie (Baltimore)
- **Producer:** Trey Lewis, Gunpowder Bison & Trading Co. – ground bison (Baltimore County) **Producer:** Alice Orzechowski, Caprikorn Farms – goat cheddar cheese (Washington County)
- **Producer:** Denzell Mitchell, Five Seed Farms – tomatoes (Baltimore City)
- **Producer:** Steve Blaas, Full Circle Urban Farms – micro hot mix (Baltimore City)

Entrée: Honey Brined Smokey Rub Chicken with Quick Pickle Salad and Chesapeake Lettuce Bouquet

- **Chef:** Bryan Davis, The Classic Catering People (Baltimore County)
- **Producer:** Jesse Albright, Albright Farms – chicken and cucumbers (Baltimore County)
- **Producer:** Barbie Maniscalco, Chesapeake Greenhouse, LLC – lettuce (Queen Anne's)
- **Producer:** Jim Roberts, Bees By The Bay – honey (Baltimore County)

Entrée: Chesapeake Crabcake with Corncake, Eastern Shore Melon Salad

- **Chef:** Martin Saylor, Coastal Sunbelt Produce Company (Howard County)
- **Producer:** Margaret Frothingham and Bob Arnold, Arnold Farms – corn, onions, herbs, watermelon, cantaloupe, peppers, and cucumbers (Queen Anne's County)
- **Producer:** Rich Evanusa, Beach to Bay Seafood – crabmeat (Somerset County)

Entrée: Tandoori Beef with Honeydew Tzatziki

- **Chef:** Medford Canby, Cathy Ferguson, and Charles (Buz) Porciello, Government House (Anne Arundel County)
- **Producer:** Roseda Beef – beef tenderloin (Baltimore County)
- **Producer:** Bobby Prigel, Prigel Family Creamery – plain yogurt (Baltimore County)

Dessert: Gertrude's Charolettetown Farm Ricotta Doughnuts with Peach Caramel Sauce

- **Chef:** Douglas Wetzel, Gertrude's (Baltimore)
- **Producer:** Pam Miller, Charlolettetown Farm – fresh goat ricotta (Baltimore County)
- **Producer:** Emily Zaas, Black Rock Orchard – peaches (Carroll County)
- **Producer:** Valerie Smith, Springfield Farm – eggs (Baltimore County)

Dessert: Honey and Goat Cheese Ice Cream

- **Chef:** Medford Canby, Cathy Ferguson, and Charles (Buz) Porciello, Government House (Anne Arundel County)
- **Producer:** Firefly Farms – chevre goat cheese (Garrett County)

Beverage: Mint and Sage Lemonade

- **Chef:** Dana Sutton, Evensong Farm (Washington County)
- **Producer:** Julie Stinar, Evensong Farm – herbs (Washington County).

Beverage: Richardson's Watermelon Sorbet Wine Float with Lime Pepper Foam

- **Chef:** Ben Simpkins, Richardson Farms (Baltimore County)

- **Producer:** Les Richardson of Richardson Farms – watermelon (Baltimore County)
- **Producer:** Susan Renner of Boordy – ice wine (Baltimore County)

For more information, including cookbooks, fact sheets, menu stats and more, visit: <http://mda.maryland.gov/Pages/Buy-Local-Cookout.aspx>

Find local Maryland products, locate a farmers market and more at: www.marylandsbest.net.

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Governor Martin O'Malley Hosts Maryland Climate Change Summit, Releases Final Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act Plan

July 25th, 2013

Participants discuss actions Maryland is taking to address the impacts of climate change

BALTIMORE, MD - Governor Martin O'Malley hosted hundreds of scientists, business leaders, environmental advocates and community activists today at a climate change summit to celebrate the release of Maryland's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act Plan (the Plan) and discuss how Marylanders can take action to help the State reach its goal of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 25 percent by 2020.

"Climate change is not an ideological issue any more than gravity is: it's not about whether we move left or right, but whether we make the right choices for Marylanders. As severe weather events continue to grow in size and impact, and elongated trends of poor air quality continue, the costs of inaction would grow exponentially," said Governor O'Malley. "In Maryland, we are moving forward and taking action by creating green jobs and protecting our land, water, air and public health."

[The Plan](#) is a comprehensive, long-term framework. The majority of its programs are already in place and will be strengthened with new technologies and forward-thinking policies over the next seven years. These enhancements will result in a 55 million metric ton reduction in GHG emissions and approximately \$1.6 billion in economic benefits. The Plan will support more than 37,000 jobs and positively impact public health.

"The cost of inaction is too great. We are taking actions now to safeguard our communities from climate impacts we are already seeing and expect to see more frequently in the future," said Maryland Department of the Environment Secretary Robert M. Summers. "All Marylanders can take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing energy consumption and household waste output, walking, riding a bike or using mass transit whenever possible and driving more fuel efficient vehicles."

Key programs in the Plan include:

- **Maryland Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS):** This establishes a market for new sources of renewable electricity generation by requiring that Maryland power providers supply 18 percent of electricity from renewable sources by 2020, increasing to 20 percent by 2022. Increasing this standard beyond 20 percent could drive additional reductions.
- **EmPOWER Maryland:** This program is designed to reduce both Maryland's per capita total electricity consumption and peak load demand by 15 percent by 2015. It includes many State- and utility-managed energy efficiency and conservation programs. Strengthening this existing program should allow the State to increase its per capita

electricity consumption reduction target above 15 percent and enable Maryland to achieve additional reductions.

- **Zero Waste:** Maryland is implementing an ambitious strategy that aims to ensure all products in Maryland can be reused, recycled or composted. Waste in landfills is a source of GHG emissions. By reducing the volume of that waste, we can significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and by recycling we can reduce the energy needed to make products from raw materials. The final Plan includes additional GHG emission reductions attributable to increasing the State's requirement to better utilize or recycle 60 percent of Maryland's government managed solid waste by 2020. Maryland's county recycling rates already average around 45 percent.
- **Maryland Clean Cars Program:** This program directly regulates carbon dioxide emissions from motor vehicles. These standards became effective for model year 2011 vehicles, significantly reducing a number of emissions from greenhouse gases.
- **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI):** This program is a cooperative regional cap-and-trade initiative among nine Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states to reduce CO2 emissions from fossil fuel-fired power plants. Revenues from the program support energy efficiency programs and augment EmPOWER and RPS. Recently, the RGGI states agreed to lower the regional emissions cap. In Maryland, regulations needed to implement the lower cap will be promulgated this summer.

A recent George Mason University [report](#) showed that 86 percent of Marylanders believe climate change is happening and three quarters of Marylanders believe that state and local governments should protect their communities from the impacts of climate change. In addition, a second [report](#) showed that 52 percent of Marylanders believe that climate change poses a significant public health threat.

"Given the extreme weather of last year including Hurricane Sandy and the recent heat wave, Marylanders are becoming more aware of the destructive impacts of climate change. In order to avoid the worst of these impacts, action must be taken now to reduce greenhouse gases in Maryland and around the world," said Chesapeake Climate Action Network Executive Director Mike Tidwell. "We are fortunate in Maryland that Governor Martin O'Malley has made a top priority of tackling the climate crisis head on. By charting a path to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 25 percent by 2020, Maryland is showing the rest of the country how to fight climate change while attracting a clean energy industry that will grow the state's economy."

Maryland is among the States most vulnerable to climate change with more than 3,000 miles of coastline. Rising sea levels, along with increased storm intensity, will have devastating and far-reaching environmental and economic impacts on the Chesapeake Bay and on the quality of life that Marylanders enjoy.

"Science is clear that climate change is occurring, is caused primarily by human activities and poses significant risks to Maryland as it does to the rest of the world" said University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science president Don Boesch. "Significant reductions in emissions must be made over just a few decades to avoid the worst of the consequences and Maryland has an opportunity and a responsibility to lead."

For the past six years, the people of Maryland have been taking strong actions to reduce our carbon footprint, improve air quality, invest in clean technology and create green jobs. Under the O'Malley-Brown Administration, Maryland has set some of the most ambitious goals in the nation for reducing greenhouse emissions advancing cleaner, renewable energy, protecting the health of our children and elderly, rebuilding our shorelines and creating green jobs.

Maryland advanced off-shore wind, on-shore wind, and solar energy policies. The State partnered with eight other Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern states on RGGI, the nation's first cap-and-trade auction of greenhouse emissions. Maryland reduced harmful pollutants in its air by more than 80 percent, passed landmark clean cars legislation, created a sustainable

communities tax credit and created incentives to help homeowners and businesses utilize clean energy.

By making these better choices the State is delivering better results: Maryland's workforce has more green jobs per capita than any state in the Mid-Atlantic region. The climate-related actions Maryland is taking are projected to create 37,000 additional jobs and pump \$1.6 billion into Maryland's economy.

Learn more about [Maryland's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act Plan](#) and what you can do to make a difference at climatechange.maryland.gov.

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